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Department of Defense
DIRECTIVE

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267-1472
October 26, 1992
NUMBER 5136.11



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SUBJECT: Defense Medical Programs Activity (DMPA)

References: (a) Title 10, United States Code
(b) DoD Directive 5136.10, "Defense Medical Support Activity,"
February 6, 1986 (hereby canceled)
(c) DoD Directive 7750.5, "Management and Control of
Information Requirements," August 7, 1986

A. PURPOSE

Under the authority vested in the Secretary of Defense under the provisions of reference (a), this Directive establishes the DMPA as a DoD Field Activity under the direction, authority, and control of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) (ASD(HA)), with responsibilities, functions, relationships, and authorities as outlined below. The Defense Medical Support Activity, previously established under reference (b), is hereby disestablished and its functions incorporated within the DMPA.

B. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Unified and Specified Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, and the DoD Field Activities (hereafter referred to collectively as "the DoD Components").

C. RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

The Director, DMPA, shall:

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A

Approved for public release;
Distribution Unlimited

1. Develop and maintain the Department of Defense Unified Medical Program to provide resources for all medical activities.

2. Develop, maintain, and provide guidance for an integrated system for planning, programming, and budgeting for medical facility military construction projects (to include initial construction, replacement, modification, modernization, and supporting facilities) throughout the Department of Defense and for managing the allocation of the financial resources approved for such projects.

3. Develop, maintain, and oversee the design, enhancement, operation, procurement, and management of information systems and related communications and automated systems in support of the activities of the DoD Military Health Services System (MHSS).

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4. Manage the DoD-wide automated MHSS information systems.
5. Provide other support for DoD military medical programs, as directed by the ASD(HA).

D. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

The DMPA shall consist of:

1. A Director designated by the ASD(HA) from among personnel within the Office of the ASD(HA).
2. Such additional subordinate organizational elements as are established by the Director within resources assigned by the Secretary of Defense.

E. RELATIONSHIPS

1. In performing assigned functions, the Director, DMPA, shall:
 - a. Coordinate actions with the other DoD Components having collateral or related functions in the areas of assigned responsibility.
 - b. Maintain liaison with the other DoD Components and other governmental and nongovernmental agencies to exchange information and advice on programs in the field of assigned responsibility.
 - c. Make use of established facilities and services in the Department of Defense and other Government Agencies to avoid duplication and achieve maximum efficiency and economy.
2. The Heads of the DoD Components shall coordinate with the Director, DMPA, on all matters relating to DMPA functions and responsibilities.

F. AUTHORITY

The Director, DMPA, is authorized to:

1. Obtain from the other DoD Components, such advice, assistance, and information consistent with the policies and criteria of DoD Directive 7750.5 (reference (c)), as necessary to carry out DMPA's assigned responsibilities.
2. Communicate directly with appropriate personnel in the other DoD Components on matters related to DMPA programs and activities.
3. Communicate directly with other governmental agencies, representatives of the legislative branch, and members of the public, as appropriate, in carrying out the responsibilities and functions assigned under this Directive.

G. ADMINISTRATION

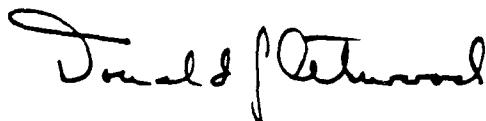
1. The Secretaries of the Military Departments shall assign military personnel to the DMPA in accordance with approved authorizations and established procedures for assignment to joint duty.

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2. Administrative support for the DMPA shall be provided by the Director, Washington Headquarters Services.

H. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Directive is effective immediately.



Donald J. Atwood
Deputy Secretary of Defense

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